

XX. — *Descriptions of new Freshwater Fishes discovered by Mr. G. L. Bates in South Cameroon.* By G. A. BOULENGER, F.R.S.

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Mormyrops batesianus.

Depth of body 6 times in total length, length of head 5 times. Head $1\frac{1}{2}$ times as long as deep, with curved upper profile; snout rounded, projecting a little beyond the mouth; width of mouth a little greater than length of snout; teeth truncate, 16 in upper jaw, 18 in lower; eye in anterior third of head, its diameter $2\frac{1}{2}$ times in length of snout or interorbital width. Dorsal 30, $\frac{4}{5}$ length of anal, originating nearly twice as far from end of snout as from base of caudal. Anal 45, originating a little in advance of dorsal (8th ray corresponding to first dorsal). Pectoral $\frac{1}{2}$ length of head. Caudal rather small, densely scaled, with rounded lobes. Caudal peduncle twice as long as deep, half length of head. 102 scales in lateral line, $\frac{18}{19}$ in transverse series on body, 25 in transverse series between dorsal and anal, 18 round caudal peduncle. Uniform dark brown above, a little lighter beneath.

Total length 280 mm.

Closely allied to *M. masuianus*, Blgr.

A single specimen from Assobam, Bumba River. The Bumba River unites with the Ja at Molundu, where the two form the Ngoko, which name is given to the river between Molundu and the Sanga, an affluent of the Congo. Examples of five further Mormyrids were obtained by Mr. Bates at Assobam:—*Petrocephalus simus*, Sauv., *Marcusenius kingsleyæ*, Gthr., *Myomyrus macrodon*, Blgr., *Gnathonemus petersii*, Gthr., and the following new *Mormyrus*.

Mormyrus bumbanus.

Depth of body $4\frac{1}{3}$ times in total length, length of head $4\frac{2}{3}$ times. Head $1\frac{1}{4}$ times as long as deep, with strongly curved upper profile; snout short, $\frac{2}{3}$ postorbital part of head; teeth small, very feebly notched, 5 in upper jaw, 8 in lower; eye moderate, $\frac{1}{2}$ length of snout, $\frac{2}{3}$ interorbital width. Dorsal 62, originating above base of ventral, 3 times as far from end of snout as from base of caudal, $2\frac{2}{3}$ times as long as anal. Anal 25, originating a little nearer head than base of caudal. Pectoral obtusely pointed, $\frac{3}{4}$ length of head. Caudal with

acutely pointed lobes, as long as head, greater part covered with scales. Caudal peduncle 3 times as long as deep, $\frac{3}{4}$ length of head. 93 scales in lateral line, $\frac{24}{26}$ in transverse series on body, 32 in transverse series between dorsal and anal, 16 round caudal peduncle. Brown above, silvery white beneath.

Total length 225 mm.

Intermediate between *M. macrophthalmus*, Gthr., and *M. ovis*, Blgr.

A single specimen from the Bumba River at Assobam.

CHAMPSOBORUS, gen. nov. Characinidarum.

Snout elongate, pointed; mouth large; upper jaw movable upwards; maxillary very small, not hidden under the præ-orbital when the mouth is closed; both jaws with a single series of bicuspid teeth, the laterals compressed, the anterior more conical and canine-like. Greater part of cheek covered by the suborbitals; nostrils near the eye, close together, separated by a valvular flap; gill-membranes narrowly united to isthmus. Body elongate, compressed. Scales small, strongly ciliated; lateral line straight, along the middle of the side; a small scaly process at base of ventral. Dorsal with 18 rays, above the ventrals; anal with 14 rays; adipose dorsal fin small.

Allied to *Mesoborus*, Pellegrin, but with a single series of teeth in both jaws.

Champsoborus pellegrini.

Depth of body $4\frac{1}{2}$ to 5 times in total length, length of head 3 times. Head 3 to $3\frac{1}{4}$ times as long as broad, feebly rugose above; snout about $1\frac{1}{2}$ times as long as eye, as long as post-ocular part of head; mouth not extending quite to below anterior border of eye; 25 or 26 teeth on each side of upper jaw, 22-24 in lower; the two teeth at the symphysis of the upper jaw the longest; naked part of cheek about half width of suborbital. Gill-rakers rudimentary. Dorsal III 16, originating well in advance of ventrals, equally distant from eye and from root of caudal, longest ray about half length of head. Anal III 11. Pectoral about $\frac{2}{3}$ length of head. Caudal nearly entirely covered with small scales, deeply forked, lobes rounded. Caudal peduncle about $1\frac{2}{3}$ times as long as deep. Scales 90-98 $\frac{14-15}{14-15}$, 10-11 between lateral line and ventral. Yellowish, with rounded brown spots, the largest of which form a series along the lateral line; three

blackish streaks across the dorsal; large symmetrical black markings on the caudal; all these markings very similar to those of *Paraphago rostratus*.

Two specimens, 60 mm. long, were found by Mr. Bates in the Bumba River at Assobam. A larger specimen (110 mm.) from the Ubanghi, preserved in the Congo Museum at Tervueren belongs to the same species. I had previously referred it to *Mesoborus crocodilus*.

Clarias jaensis.

Depth of body about 6 times in total length, length of head $3\frac{1}{2}$ to $3\frac{3}{4}$ times. Head $1\frac{2}{5}$ times as long as broad, smooth or very feebly granulate above; occipital process obtusely pointed; frontal fontanelle sole-shaped, $\frac{1}{6}$ length of head; occipital fontanelle small, in advance of occipital process; eye very small, 4 to $4\frac{1}{2}$ times in length of snout, $7\frac{1}{2}$ to 8 times in interorbital width, which equals width of mouth and $\frac{1}{2}$ length of head; band of præmaxillary teeth 6 times as long as broad; vomerine teeth granular, forming a crescentic band which is as broad as the præmaxillary band; nasal barbel $\frac{1}{2}$ to $\frac{3}{5}$ length of head; maxillary barbel not quite as long as head, reaching middle of pectoral fin; outer mandibular barbel $\frac{2}{3}$ to $\frac{4}{5}$ length of head, inner $\frac{1}{2}$ to $\frac{3}{5}$. 23 gill-rakers on anterior arch. Clavicles hidden under the skin. Dorsal 85-90, its distance from occipital process $\frac{1}{3}$ length of head, its distance from caudal 2 diameters of eye. Anal 65-70, its distance from caudal $1\frac{1}{2}$ to 2 diameters of eye. Pectoral not quite $\frac{1}{2}$ length of head, the spine smooth and $\frac{2}{3}$ the length of the fin. Ventral $1\frac{1}{3}$ times as distant from caudal as from end of snout. Caudal a little less than $\frac{1}{2}$ length of head. Dark brown above, white beneath.

Total length 450 mm.

To be placed between *C. platycephalus*, Blgr., and *C. carsoni*, Blgr.

Two specimens from the Ja River at Bitye.

XXI.—*Description of a new Lizard of the Genus Acanthodactylus from Syria.* By G. A. BOULENGER, F.R.S.

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DURING a recent collecting-trip to Syria, M. Henry Gadeau de Kerville brought together a large and interesting series of Reptiles, which he has submitted to me for identification,